

Prelude: *O Mensch, beweine deine Sünde gross*, BWV 622 (J. S. Bach)

### Welcome & Call to Worship

If you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any common sharing in the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and of one mind.

***Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.***

In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus:

***Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage;***

Rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness.

***And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death – even death on a cross!***

Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name,

***That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.***

Opening Prayer

Hymn of Praise 75: ***All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name***

Words of Greeting and Peace

Celebration of Ministry: Children

Songs of Adoration: ***What a Beautiful Name; I Know Whom I Have Believed***

Children's Sermon

Classic Choral Anthem: *God So Loved the World* (Stainer)

Prayer of Confession

**Our great God and Savior, as we look to the cross, we are reminded that the victory is Yours. Sins forgiven. Death conquered. Your people redeemed, and Your Kingdom come. Though we affirm this truth, we often resist your call to embrace the cross. Forgive us Lord. Forgive us for the times when we have spent more energy fighting to prove we are right instead of doing what you ask of us. Forgive us for the words we speak out of revenge or judgment, instead of speaking the truth in love. Forgive us for being what we see in the world instead of embracing who we are in You. In our weakness—lead us to the cross and into the victory of Your resurrection that we might know and experience your promised forgiveness in Christ. Amen.**

Time of Prayer

*Please feel free sit, stand, or kneel as we bow in humility before our loving heavenly Father.*

Scripture Reading: John 18:28-40

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

***All: Thanks be to God!***

Hymn of Preparation 74: ***Beautiful Savior***

Sermon: **When Truth and Power Intersect**

Pastor Wes Oden

Song of Response: ***Living Hope***

Benediction

**WELCOME TO THE HOUGHTON WESLEYAN CHURCH.** The season of Lent is a time for reflection and action as we ponder the death of Jesus. These 40 days lead us through the deserts and valleys of life and through the peaks and joys of life. On this Fifth Sunday in Lent, we remember the depths of God's love for us in Christ. May our worship help us to focus on our need and on his grace.

**NEXT SUNDAY MORNING:** we continue our Lenten journey exploring interactions with Jesus. Next Sunday's sermon focuses on the women who mourn for Jesus as he carries his cross: *When We Mourn for the Kingdom* (Luke 23:26-31). Join us for worship online at 10:00.

**STAYING CONNECTED:** During this unusual time, we want to stay as connected to you as possible. Pastor Wes is publishing a weekly update that can be accessed through email, text or the church website and Facebook pages. The pastors are also created a weekly video update that is sent and posted on Thursdays. If you have not received these either through email or text and would like to do so, please send your preference and information to [office@hwchurch.org](mailto:office@hwchurch.org).

**STEWARDSHIP** Received (June 1–Present): \$635,438.77  
Budgeted (June 1–Present): \$665,103.79

**MISSION MOMENT** - We've heard from our HWC workers all over the globe — Asia, Australia, Europe, Africa, Haiti, western Canada. All are reporting a variety of responses and needs in these Covid-19 days. The virus' arrival in Haiti presents perhaps the most severe possible consequences. We pray for leaders, churches and front-line health workers in each land.

**PERSECUTED CHURCH** - Seeking relationship, corporate worship and meeting needs while confined or restricted is new to us. Realizing all the more these challenges, we pray for our brothers and sisters in many places where this is the norm due to opposition and persecution.

**PRAYER CONCERNS:** for all who are grieving; for people with health concerns: Lia, Victoria, and Evan O'Gorman, Yukon Waringer, Keith Rugg (Kathy Moore's father), Grace Taylor, Robin Pawling, Karen Szymanski, Phyllis Osgood, Cindy Lastoria, Leonard Watson, Mark )Mayhle (Doug's brother), Paulette Schierer, Ruby Schierer Williams, Elly Plaza (Alejandra Koch's sister), Jeshu, Kurtis and Eliyah Perry, Reuben Samuels, The Marsh Family, Jon Retz, Emily Hood (A.C. Taylor's cousin), Bob Brown, Bill Getty, Nancy Cole, Eileen Spear, Evelyn Heil, Dan Gurley, Bethie Liddick, Phil Main, Emily Crikelair, Mike Raybuck, Eila Shea, Izabela Daugherty (Dave and Karen's daughter-in-law), Peter Lingenfelter; for all effected by the coronavirus, for healthcare professionals and for leaders helping the world navigate it; for the injured and grieving from tragedies and disasters; for refugees; for peace amid threats of war; for the leaders of our government; for First Baptist Church, Belfast (Pastor James Saunders).

